

Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control

2016 Colorado Wildfire Funding Guidelines



The Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) has been tasked by the Colorado State Legislature to administer and manage programs aimed at assisting local jurisdictions with safe and effective wildland fire response. The Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF) was created to assist local jurisdictions with initial attack wildland fire response on state and private lands within the state of Colorado (Ref: CRS §24-33.5-1226). The Colorado Firefighting Aviation Corps (CFAC) program was authorized to ensure the availability of aviation resources for wildland fire response on state and private lands within the state of Colorado (C.R.S. §24-33.5-1228). Funding and reimbursement for wildland firefighting resources under these programs is available to any Colorado County Sheriff, fire protection district, or municipal fire department in accordance with the following eligibility guidelines. Funding and reimbursement will occur to the extent that program funds are available.

Eligible Hand Crew Resources ¹	First 2 Calendar Days of Incident	After First 2 Calendar Days
Type 1, Type 2-IA, or Type 2 Hand Crews	Eligible ¹	Not Eligible
Eligible Aviation Resources	During Mutual Aid Period ²	After Mutual Aid Period ²
Multi Mission Aircraft (MMA)	Eligible	Discretionary ³
Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT)	Eligible	Discretionary ³
Large Air Tankers (LAT) ¹	Eligible ¹	Not Eligible
Very Large Air Tankers (VLAT) ^{1,4}	Eligible ^{1,4}	Not Eligible
Type 1 Helicopters ¹	Eligible ¹	Not Eligible
Type 2 Helicopters	Eligible	Discretionary ³
Type 3 Helicopters	Eligible	Discretionary ³
Aerial Supervision Platforms and Lead Planes	Not Eligible – unless required by interagency standards and mobilization guides.	

¹ The use of these resources may be reimbursed in accordance with the Wildfire Emergency Response Fund (WERF).

² For determination of reimbursement and funding, the Mutual Aid Period will be as defined in the County Annual Operating Plan (AOP).

³ Funding support for aviation operations beyond the mutual aid period may be approved by DFPC.

⁴ Any request for a Very Large Air Tanker (VLAT) must be approved by the DFPC Branch Chief of Operations or his/her designee prior to use.

Funding Requests and Notifications

- The requesting agency *must* notify DFPC of each funding (CFAC) or reimbursement (WERF) request. It is critical that DFPC receives notification of any and all requests to maintain an accurate balance for funds available.
- Notifications and requests should be made to the DFPC via email to: wildlandfire@state.co.us and a copy to the DFPC Regional FMO within 7 days of resource use. Requests should be documented on the *DFPC Wildfire Funding Notification and Request* form, which needs to be attached to the email, and must include the following information: Who requested the resource (Sheriff, fire chief, etc.); Fire Name; Incident Number (whenever available); Resource Name(s); Dates of Use; and Copies of Resource Orders (whenever available).

Additional Details

The following chart lists specific information and details for each kind of resource:

Additional Details – Hand Crews	
Eligible	Up to 2 hand crew days within the first 2 calendar days of an incident beginning from time of departure to fire.
	Hand crew logistics costs of lodging, camping, transportation/fuel and per diem.
	Type 1, Type 2 Initial Attack, or Type 2 crews qualified to NWCG standards.
	Hand crews should be ordered based on incident needs, crew Type and capabilities, and proximity to incident. There is a preference for the use and reimbursement of State of Colorado inmate crews.
	Different crews may be used, but only for a total of 2 hand crew days per incident.
Not Eligible	Travel time to bring hand crews from outside Colorado.
Additional Details – Aviation Resources	
Eligible	DFPC funding support can be utilized on state and private land fires, and for fires that occur in mutual aid areas as defined in the County AOP.
	Multiple fixed and rotor wing resources (if needed) can be funded on the same incident.
	DFPC will reimburse and pay for eligible aviation resources during the mutual aid period, contingent on available funding.
	Funding support for incident aviation operations beyond the mutual aid period may be approved by the DFPC, based on factors such as fire potential, values at risk, defined mutual aid periods, boundary line fires, availability of funds, etc. ³
	Limited to reimbursement for the use of only one of the following resources per incident: Type 1 Helicopter (first hour of firefighting helicopter rotor time + pilot time); or Very Large/Large Airtanker (first aerial tanker flight + drop + retardant) ⁴
	Additional helicopter personnel (helitack crew).
	Fuel and support trucks assigned to aviation resources.
	Daily availability costs of aircraft.
	Only OAS or USFS carded or authorized aircraft, ordered through the procedures outlined in the County AOP, are eligible for DFPC funding and reimbursement.
Not Eligible	Ferry or flight time to bring aerial resources to Colorado.
Process	Requesting agency orders appropriate Kind and Type of resource(s). Consult the County AOP for the local, state, and interagency dispatch procedures to order aviation resources.
	The Closest Forces concept will be utilized meaning that the closest available resource of the Kind and Type requested will be dispatched to the incident. DFPC will cover eligible costs regardless of whether the aircraft is a state or federally-managed resource.
	The DFPC must be notified via the State Emergency Operations Line (303-279-8855) if multiple aviation resources are ordered on an incident.
	If a local agency utilizes aircraft on a fire beyond the DFPC eligibility period, costs may be charged to the requesting agency. Actual costs vary by resource used.
Questions concerning this guidance or the DFPC Aviation program should be directed to your DFPC Regional FMO.	